



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 16 June 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- Department of Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff announced on Wednesday that Visa Waiver Program countries will be required to produce passports with digital photographs by October 26, 2005. (See item [8](#))
- The Arkansas Democrat Gazette reports a wave of counterfeit money order scams, usually coming from outside the country, has surfaced in Arkansas communities as well as in other states. (See item [9](#))
- The Asbury Park Press reports the FBI has opened an investigation into several threatening letters addressed to schools and public officials that were found inside the Asbury Park, New Jersey post office last week. (See item [10](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *June 15, New York Times* — **OPEC increases oil output.** The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) said on Wednesday, June 15, that it had agreed to lift its oil production quotas by 500,000 barrels a day in a move reflecting the organization's unease with soaring worldwide energy demand. The increase, which officially puts the output quotas of the at 28 million barrels a day, was considered mostly symbolic since its 11 member nations are

already producing about that amount of oil each day in a rush to cash in on high prices. The decision by OPEC comes amid a state of confusion among its members on how to deal with galloping international oil consumption. Representatives from Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest producer, repeatedly claim that a lack of refining capacity in industrial countries, instead of a lack of oil supplies, was responsible for the recent surge in prices. Saudi Arabia is the only nation with much spare oil production capacity. However, the excess oil Saudi Arabia can provide to the markets is not finding buyers because fewer refineries have been built to process it in recent years, said Ali al-Naimi, Saudi Arabia's oil minister.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/06/15/business/15cnd-opec.html>

2. *June 15, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission* — **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission releases new report on energy market activity.** The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) has released the third in its series on State of the Markets Report. Produced by the Commission's Office of Market Oversight and Investigations, the report covers electric, natural gas, and other related energy market activity during 2004. In contrast to seasonal assessments, which focus on the near future, this report examines performance in the recent past. The State of the Markets Report presents findings regarding market conditions relevant to FERC and identifies emerging trends that may soon require FERC's attention.
Source: <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/Files/20050615093455-06-15-05-som2004.pdf>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

Nothing to report.

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

3. *June 14, Pasadena Star News (CA)* — **Identity thieves look to larger credit lines.** Unlike the thieves who rummage through trash looking for old credit card bills, authorities say they've noted an increase in more sophisticated scams in which identity thieves steal the names and larger credit lines of businesses and nonprofit groups. Called corporate identity theft, the crime is growing rapidly, according to California State Assemblyman Ron Calderon, D-Montebello, who has introduced a bill to help fight the problem. Corporate identity thieves can steal thousands of dollars at a time from companies and nonprofit organizations. The thieves will typically gain access to a firm's credit card information and use it to pile up hefty bills, officials said. Often, alarms don't ring at the banks or credit card companies because bankers and credit firms assume that companies buy in bulk. "Businesses have far bigger credit lines than the average consumer. If I'm using a credit card and start buying 100 laptops, I will get a call from the bank. But if I'm a business, a credit card company won't think twice," said Teresa Schilling,

spokesperson for the California Attorney General's Office, which is sponsoring Calderon's bill. Calderon's bill, AB 424, establishes corporate identity theft as a crime.

Source: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/Stories/0,1413,206~22097~292_1031,00.html

4. *June 14, Associated Press* — **Treasury official calls bankers valuable in terror fight.** The head of the federal agency working to keep terrorists from laundering money in U.S. banks told 1,300 bankers Tuesday, June 14, that they are America's "eyes and ears" when it comes to spotting suspicious banking activity. However, William Fox, director of the Department of Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCen, also urged the bankers to use their judgment when deciding whether to report a customer's actions. Since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, federal regulators have stepped up enforcement of the Bank Secrecy Act, an anti-money laundering law, passed in 1970, that makes banks responsible for reporting unusual cash activity. Fox said bankers are filing too many suspicious activity reports (SAR) because they're worried that missing a possible terrorist will ruin their company's image or garner a fine. Fox said "defensive filing" is bogging down his department; he gave an example of a company that filed a SAR when a worker stole bacon from the cafeteria. Fox acknowledged that the government has done a "poor job of providing information" to banks to help them analyze the risks some customers could pose. To help bankers, FinCen plans to hold a series of free seminars.

FinCen: <http://www.fincen.gov>

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/050614/terror_money.html?.v=2

5. *June 10, The Phoenix Business Journal (AZ)* — **Retailers crack down on identity theft, credit fraud.** Lately, customers in Arizona are frequently being asked to show a valid picture ID when using credit cards at retailers. The vigilance by retailers and other businesses is part of new efforts to reduce credit card fraud and identity theft-related crimes that hurt consumers and often leave the stores covering the costs. Arizona Retailers Association Director Michelle Ahlmer said a common misperception is that credit card companies endure the costs of illegal purchases, but it's retailers that often bear the brunt of such crimes. "The retailer gets left with that purchase — eating the costs," said Ahlmer. Arizona ranks No. 1 in the nation per capita for identity theft crimes with consumers, stores and credit card companies hit with the burden of that crime wave. Ahlmer said steps such as asking customers for photo ID or checking cards and receipts for matching signatures protects consumers and discourages criminals from targeting stores.

Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2005/06/13/story4.html?from_rss=1

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

6. *June 15, Bloomberg* — **Canada should add armed guards on border.** Canada must add guards along the 3,145-mile border with the U.S. and arm them with guns because local and federal police response to emergencies is too slow, a Canadian Senate committee said. While the U.S. has tripled customs and patrol agents on the Canadian border since 1994, the number of Canadian guards declined by 30 to 8,300, the Committee on National Security and Defense said in a report on Wednesday, June 15. The guards are armed with batons and pepper spray, and are instructed to call the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or local police during violent

incidents. “Despite what should have been a wakeup call of September 11, 2001, there has been an unsettling lack of progress on both sides of the border to improve efficiency and strengthen security,” said the committee, headed by Senator Colin Kenny. Guards need to be armed because backup at the border is “slow or non-existent.” Failing to properly arm guards at crossings such as the Ambassador Bridge, which links Detroit to Windsor, Ontario, jeopardizes national security and Canada's economy, the committee said. About 85 percent of Canada's exports go to the U.S., with \$1.4 billion worth of goods crossing the border daily. The Canadian Senate can only make recommendations. The government must implement the policy.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000082&sid=aQkrk9wzBt0&refer=canada>

7. *June 15, Associated Press* — House panel takes first step toward cutting Amtrak routes.

Amtrak would have to end all of its cross-country routes, service between Chicago and New Orleans and the Auto Train to Florida under big cuts in taxpayer subsidies approved by a House panel on Wednesday, June 15. The proposed cuts, which need approval of the full House and Senate, came Wednesday as an Appropriations subcommittee approved a transportation funding bill that would slash Amtrak's budget by more than half and limit federal subsidies to \$30 per passenger per ride. The cuts would not apply to most Amtrak service in the Northeast corridor, as well as shorter corridor routes in the Midwest and California. Panel chairman Joe Knollenberg, (R-MI), said those routes account for 80 percent of Amtrak's ridership. He said some money-losing routes, such as the Sunset Limited between Los Angeles and Orlando, FL, require federal subsidies of more than \$400 per passenger. Among the routes that would lose subsidies are the Empire Builder, which runs across the Northern Plains, the Lake Shore Limited from the East Coast to Chicago, and the California Zephyr from Chicago to Oakland, CA.

Source: http://www.freep.com/news/statewire/sw117206_20050615.htm

8. *June 15, Department of Homeland Security* — Digital photos required in passports for Visa waiver travelers. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Michael Chertoff announced on Wednesday, June 15, that Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries will be required to produce passports with digital photographs by October 26, 2005. On that date, all VWP countries must also present an acceptable plan to begin issuing integrated circuit chips, or e-passports, within one year. This announcement relates to the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002 requirement that any passport issued after October 26, 2005, and used for Visa Waiver Program travel to the United States, must include a biometric identifier based on applicable standards established by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). In addition to the digital photo and chip requirements, DHS is taking steps to strengthen document integrity by requiring VWP countries to commit to several measures concerning lost and stolen passports. Among them, DHS will require VWP countries to report all lost and stolen passports to INTERPOL and DHS, report all intercepted lost and stolen passports and increase information sharing between VWP countries and the United States government on trends and analysis of lost and stolen passports.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4542>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

9. *June 15, Arkansas Democrat Gazette* — **Money-stealing schemes popping up in Arkansas.**

A raft of scams has surfaced in Arkansas communities, mirroring similar problems around the country. Russellville police recently came across counterfeit postal money orders totaling \$20,000, and Mountain Home residents also lost money on counterfeit money orders. Several Pine Bluff residents recently tried to cash counterfeit cashier's checks they'd received in the mail. The most noticeable surge is in counterfeit money orders, usually coming from outside the country. The scams take various forms, but a few patterns are emerging. Sometimes victims make a friend on the Internet; someone overseas who say they can't cash American money orders. The new friend sends the orders over, asking the victim to cash them and send most of the cash back overseas as a favor. In other cases the victim gets a message from a potential buyer — also outside the country — interested in something the victim is selling online. The con artist pays for the sale by money order, "accidentally" making the money order out for too much. The scammer asks the seller to return the remaining cash by mail. Paul Krenn, of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, said this type of scam surfaced in earnest in December and has hit all over the country.

Source: <http://www.nwanews.com/story.php?paper=adg§ion=News&storyid=119353>

10. *June 14, Asbury Park Press (NJ)* — **FBI probing threatening letters in New Jersey.** The FBI has opened an investigation into several threatening letters found inside the Asbury Park, NJ, post office last week, a bureau spokesperson said Monday, June 13. The letters were addressed to schools and public officials, but alert postal employees noticed them before they could be delivered, Special Agent Steven Siegel said. The letters may be related to a letter sent to a private school in Howell, NJ, that police found last week, authorities said. That envelope contained a single sheet of paper with the word "anthrax" printed on it. Tests of the envelopes found no traces of biological or chemical materials on the paper, Siegel said. The letters were found last week after postal employees at the Bangs Avenue facility noticed something suspicious about the envelopes. The letters were separated, and the FBI, along with agents from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and local authorities, were called. On June 7, Howell police were called to the Providence Christian Academy after an employee found a letter and sheet of paper inside with the word "anthrax" on it. The letter did not have a return address.

Source: <http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050614/NEWS01/506140364/1004/SPORTS>

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Agriculture Sector

11. *June 15, Associated Press* — **Researchers explore spread of mad cow disease.** Researchers at the University of California–Davis are trying to explain how mad cow disease acts so fast using mathematical modeling. The disease is caused when proteins in the body bend into misfolded shapes called "prions," eventually forming clumps that kill brain cells and leave spongy holes in the brain. It takes years to incubate in an infected animal. But once it becomes active, the researchers found the flawed proteins grow exponentially and replicate in two dimensions, not merely growing end-to-end as previously thought. They're still studying why the disease acts as it does. Most research into mad cow disease is being conducted through experiments on animal tissue, not computer modeling. "Certainly, this research could help to answer some of

the key questions we have about the disease," says Benjamin Higgins, executive vice president of the California Cattlemen's Association. "We know the disease is dormant in that animal somewhere. We know that later in life, something causes an exponential growth in those prions in that animal."

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20050615/ap_on_sc/mad_cow_research:_ylt=Armr3J9EAN0dpXHAYNrtxBhZ24cA:_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNlYwMIJVRPUCU

12. *June 15, Birmingham News (AL)* — Officials prepare for viable threat to state agriculture.

Alabama is preparing for the possibility of a crippling agriculture disaster caused by terrorism, an accident, or a natural outbreak of disease, officials said Tuesday, June 14. "It is really a viable threat," Jim Walker, director of the Alabama Department of Homeland Security, said at the opening of a three-day conference on agricultural security. "We've got to look at early detection and track trends in animal health. We've got to be able to respond and contain anything that happens." More than 500 health, agricultural and law enforcement officials attended the conference. The meeting was conducted by the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, Alabama Department of Public Health, and the University of Alabama. Authorities said it was the first time that the state has coordinated agencies in efforts to protect Alabama's largest economic activity, agriculture. The conference covered a wide range of catastrophic threats to agriculture, from foot and mouth disease to bird flu. Officials said the conference was the result of heightened concerns over terrorist attacks and the rising threat of disease outbreaks among animals and crops.

Source: <http://www.al.com/news/birminghamnews/index.ssf?/base/news/111882780988890.xml&coll=2>

13. *June 15, Cincinnati Enquirer (OH)* — Farmers face fuel concerns. Facing the surge in fuel costs that has hit businesses and consumers this summer, farmers are also dealing with a substantial increase in the cost of an important ingredient in farm production — nitrogen-based fertilizers, which are produced by the reformulation of natural gas. In February, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) estimated farmers would spend \$8.2 billion on fuel this year, up 21 percent from 2003. But this year's costs likely will surpass \$8.8 billion, a 29 percent jump from two years ago, said Terry Francl, senior economist at the American Farm Bureau Federation. And with other energy-related costs — fertilizers, pesticides, and electricity — added in, the USDA expects farmers to see their total energy costs soar \$3 billion from a year ago to \$30.4 billion. Natural gas is the biggest expenditure in the production of nitrogen-based fertilizer, making up between 70 percent and 90 percent of the total cost of the product, which most farmers need as much as rain. According to USDA figures, two years ago farmers paid on average \$250 per ton of anhydrous ammonia, the most popular form of crop fertilizer. This year, it's trading for \$425 per ton, up about 70 percent from 2003.

Source: <http://news.enquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050615/BIZ01/506150328>

14. *June 13, Agence France Presse* — Taiwan culls 20,000 ducks over dioxin poisoning. Taiwan health authorities have killed more than 20,800 ducks after their eggs tested positive for dioxin poisoning. The contaminated ducks along with some 1.3 million tainted eggs found in six farms in central Changhua county were destroyed between March and June. The authorities suspected the source of the dioxin was a nearby steel factory. Dioxin, a by-product of garbage burning and industrial activities, can cause a range of illnesses in human beings, including cancer,

metabolism malfunction, and miscarriages.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050611/hl_afp/healthtaiwan_050611180607;_ylt=AuG3X4qTxekUWO1rN9uXmpWJOrgF:_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNIYwMIJVRPUCU

15. *June 13, Agricultural Research Service* — Researchers find resistance to soybean fungus.

The first soybean line with genetic resistance to charcoal rot has been released by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists in Mississippi. Charcoal rot, caused by the soilborne fungus *Macrophomina phaseolina*, is a major yield-limiting disease of the Mid-South and other soybean-producing regions throughout the world. The new line, DT97-4290, developed by scientists in the ARS Crop Genetics and Production Research Unit, is a potentially valuable source of resistance to charcoal rot for soybean breeders and producers in areas experiencing yield losses due to the disease. Charcoal rot symptoms usually appear when weather conditions are hot and dry, causing the soybean plant to lose vigor. In more advanced stages, petioles and leaves may turn yellow and wilt, while remaining attached to the plant. No chemical controls currently exist for charcoal rot, and resistance has been hard to identify. Field studies were conducted to find charcoal rot resistance among 24 selected soybean genotypes. The researchers identified three breeding lines with genetic resistance, according to Bob Paris, the research geneticist who developed the line.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2005/050613.htm>

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Food Sector

16. *June 15, Bloomberg* — South Korea, Japan suspend poultry imports from New York.

South Korea and Japan have suspended poultry imports from the state of New York after the discovery of an outbreak of avian influenza at a duck farm in Sullivan, NY. South Korea has impounded poultry imports from the state since June 10, said Jang Ki Yoon, an official South Korea's agriculture ministry. Japan has banned poultry and egg imports from the state, the U.S.A. Poultry & Egg Export Council said in a June 9 letter to members. The virus found was a low-pathogenic H7N2 virus, the council said in the letter. South Korea is waiting for U.S. confirmation whether the virus is low-pathogenic, which is usually harmless to humans, or the lethal highly-pathogenic type. "We will lift the suspension measures as soon as the virus is confirmed as low-pathogenic," Jang said.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000101&sid=aG.LxM4GBenc&refer=japan>

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Water Sector

17. *June 14, Palm Beach Post (FL)* — Boil-water notice issued for West Palm Beach and Palm

Beach. A boil-water alert has been issued for the city of West Palm Beach and the towns of Palm Beach and South Palm Beach, FL. A power failure at the city's water plant caused a temporary drop in water pressure system-wide, according to a city officials. Though power was

restored within a few minutes and water pressure was back to normal soon after, the city is asking residents to boil their water as a precaution. Coy Mathis, assistant utilities director for the city, said when they lost power to the plant this afternoon, the back-up generator didn't come on. The alert is in effect for 48 hours, which is how long it will take for them to determine whether the water is contaminated, Mathis said. More than 100,000 customers are being affected.

Source: <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/content/news/feeds/0614water.html>

- 18. June 13, Associated Press — Utah searching for ways to satisfy water needs for growing population.** Utah is going to need millions of gallons of water to satisfy the thirst of a growing population, estimated to explode by more than three million residents in 45 years. "Today, we have about 1.3 million acre feet of water to meet municipal and industrial needs," Division of Water Resources director Larry Anderson said Monday, June 13. "If the population grows as projected, we would need 2.2 million acre feet of water." On paper that means the state needs to find more than 845,000 acre feet of water to be prepared for an estimated population of 5.4 million, Anderson told the State Water Development Commission. State engineers and water resource experts are working with municipal and water conservancy experts on a plan to find that water, Anderson said. The plan includes tapping additional groundwater, increasing the size of water treatment plants, conservation, and by converting water presently designed for agricultural use for municipal and industrial uses. Also on the drawing board are two water development projects: the Bear River project and the Lake Powell pipeline.

Source: <http://tv.ksl.com/index.php?nid=5&sid=211890>

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Public Health Sector

- 19. June 15, Associated Press — Utah hospitals to test artificial blood.** University of Utah and Latter Day Saints hospitals will be among 20 trauma centers in the nation that will test a new synthetic blood. Trauma patients will be selected at random and given the product, PolyHeme, by emergency workers in West Valley City, Salt Lake City, and Sandy, and by medical helicopter crews. Thirty-six patients from Utah may be enrolled in the study that will eventually have 720 participants nationwide. When patients in traumatic situations lose a lot of blood, emergency personnel can give them a saline solution to offset the loss, but those solutions do not transport oxygen throughout the body, as blood does. PolyHeme has a hemoglobin base and can transport oxygen.

Artificial blood study: <http://uuhsc.utah.edu/polyheme/>

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/15/AR2005061500488.html>

- 20. June 15, Agence France Presse — Five new polio cases in Indonesia.** Five new polio cases have brought the number of children infected in Indonesia's first outbreak of the virus in a decade to 39, the World Health Organization (WHO) said. The number of infected children has continued to rise despite a government immunization drive to halt the virus in late May. The WHO said that five new cases had been confirmed on Java island, in the same region as an initial diagnosis in late April that prompted the campaign to vaccinate 6.4 million children. Three of the five new cases were in the Sukabumi district of west Java, the area where the

original outbreak was detected, WHO said. The other two were in the nearby Bogor district. Polio, which was eliminated from Indonesia nine years ago, is believed to have returned to the country via Saudi Arabia either through migrant workers or Islamic pilgrims returning from Mecca.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050615/hl_afp/healthpolioindonesia_050615112222

21. *June 15, Reuters* — **Vietnam detects six new cases of bird flu.** Vietnam has recorded six more bird flu patients, taking the number of infections in the country to 61 since December 2004, 18 of whom have died, state media reported on Wednesday, June 15. The six were being treated in a Hanoi hospital, the Tuoi Tre newspaper quoted the National Institute for Clinical Research of Tropical Medicine as saying. It said one hospital doctor who had been taking samples from carriers of the H5N1 virus had now developed a fever himself and was suspected of being infected. The hospital was also treating two women found last month to have been infected with H5N1, the newspaper said. The H5N1 virus has killed 18 Vietnamese since Dec. 16, 2004, when the disease resurfaced, taking the country's toll to 38 since it appeared in late 2003. Twelve Thais and four Cambodians have also died.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/HAN229490.htm>

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

22. *June 14, NBC4* — **Man dies in Virginia after 911 confusion slows response.** On Monday, June 13, an employee in a Fairfax, VA, building called 911 saying that his co-worker needed medical attention. However, the call initially went to the Alexandria, VA, 911 call center, instead of the Fairfax 911. The confusion centers on the location of this building: it is situated within Fairfax County, but borders the city of Alexandria. Although Alexandria dispatchers followed proper procedures and transferred the call to Fairfax County, the dispatchers there did not immediately send an ambulance. By the time an ambulance did arrive at the building, the man was dead. Fairfax County officials said there was a breakdown in communication on their part, and now Fairfax County police and the city of Alexandria have opened investigations into the incident. Following the incident, Alexandria Fire Communications officials requested that Verizon correct the telephone data base to route 911 calls originating in Fairfax County to the Fairfax County 911 center.

Source: <http://www.nbc4.com/news/4608316/detail.html>

23. *June 14, GovExec.com* — **First-responder funding decreased and reallocated to fund border security.** Senate appropriators on Tuesday, June 14, bolstered funding for border security by shifting money from grant programs for police officers, firefighters and other first responders. The Senate Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee agreed by voice vote to make the changes to President Bush's fiscal 2006 budget proposal. "The essence of the bill is

that we should address threats," said Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Judd Gregg (R-NH), adding that the panel cut funding for the first-responder grant programs because states and communities have not spent \$7 billion from previous years. The federal government has poured billions of dollars into the grant programs since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, but Gregg said the "tail has not caught up with the head." The House recently passed its version of the spending bill and met Bush's request of \$3.6 billion for first responders, but the Senate bill reduced the amount to \$3.5 billion. Border security programs would receive \$600 million more than Bush requested, totaling \$9.8 billion.

Source: <http://govexec.com/dailyfed/0605/061405cdpm1.htm>

- 24. June 13, *New York Post* — Foolproof tracking for ambulances in New York thanks to mobile tracking device.** New York City's ambulance fleet is soon to be equipped with mobile tracking devices that can provide accurate readings even in Manhattan's thicket of office towers. Officials quietly installed the systems in 10 Fire Department of New York (FDNY) ambulances three months ago. The test proved so successful that it's being expanded to 100 ambulances on Staten Island and in south Brooklyn this fall. By this time next year, officials said all 1,000 ambulances in the 911 system will be similarly equipped, shaving precious seconds off response times. Other cities in the United States and Canada have employed satellite tracking in their emergency vehicles for years, but the city has moved cautiously because of the unique landscape there where tall buildings can play havoc with satellite signals. To avert such problems, the city is installing corrective equipment to supplement \$2,000 GPS devices going into each ambulance, those operated by the Fire Department and those run by private hospitals.

Source: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?section Id=17&id=42508>

- 25. June 13, *Government Technology* — New York City holds multi-agency biological weapon response drill.** The New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) earlier this month hosted PODEX, a major multi-agency field exercise focusing on the request for, receipt of and distribution of Strategic National Stockpile assets in response to a terrorist use of a biological weapon. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP), PODEX was staged at four New York City Department of Education (DOE) facilities in Queens. PODEX is part of the city's continuing efforts to test and refine its preparedness plans and emergency response protocols. The two-day drill began with the city's health monitoring equipment testing positive for anthrax. Day one of PODEX involved the request of medical and non-medical supplies from the federal government, as well as their receipt at points of dispensing (POD) around the city. Day two of the exercise consisted of the setup of mock PODs for distribution of medications to affected individuals, as well as the related security, public information and transportation issues that would arise in such a circumstance. City officials and DHS representatives will evaluate the objectives of this exercise and study the response and decisions made by the participants for future training in other jurisdictions.

Source: http://www.govtech.net/magazine/channel_story.php/94276

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

26. *June 15, Associated Press* — **Poll: Most Americans want U.S. government to make Internet safe.** Most Americans believe the government should do more to make the Internet safe, but they don't trust the federal institutions that are largely responsible for creating and enforcing laws online, according to a new industry survey. People who were questioned expressed concerns over threats from identity theft, computer viruses and unwanted "spam" e-mails. But they held low opinions toward Congress and the Federal Trade Commission, which protects consumers against Internet fraud. The FBI scored more favorably among Internet users in the survey but still lower than technology companies. The survey was funded by the Washington-based Cyber Security Industry Alliance. "There are some mixed signals here," said Paul Kurtz, the group's executive director and a former White House cybersecurity official. "There is definitely a desire to see government provide more leadership, but there is some anxiety about what ultimately might come out." The survey said 71 percent of people believe Congress needs to pass new laws to keep the Internet safe. Survey: https://www.csialliance.org/resources/pdfs/CSIA_Survey_on_Spyware_and_Identity_Theft_White_Paper.PDF
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/15/AR2005061500175.html>

27. *June 14, CNET News* — **Browser-based attacks increase as viruses decrease.** As the threat to IT operations by viruses and worms dips, browser-based attacks are increasing, according to a technology trade organization. The Computing Technology Industry Association, or CompTIA, on Tuesday, June 14, released its third annual report on IT security and the work force. The survey of nearly 500 organizations, found that 56.6 percent had been the victim of a browser-based attack, up from 36.8 percent a year ago and a quarter two years ago, CompTIA said. Browser-based attacks often take advantage of security flaws in Web browsers and other components of the user's PC such as the operating system. The attackers' objective can be to sabotage a computer or steal private data, and the attacks can be launched when a person visits a Web page that appears harmless but contains malicious code. Still, viruses and worms continue to be the number one IT security threat, though the number of these attacks has dipped slightly. Two-thirds of organizations reported they had experienced such attacks in the past year, down slightly from 68.6 percent a year ago.
Study Press Release: http://www.comptia.org/pressroom/get_pr.aspx?prid=620
Source: http://news.com.com/Browser-based+attacks+increase+as+viruses+decrease/2100-7349_3-5747050.html

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US-CERT reports Microsoft Security Bulletins for June, 2005 address a number of vulnerabilities in Windows, Internet Explorer, Outlook Express, Outlook Web Access, ISA Server, the Step by Step Interactive Training engine, and telnet. Exploitation of the most serious of these

vulnerabilities could allow a remote, unauthenticated attacker to execute arbitrary code with SYSTEM privileges. This would allow an attacker to take complete control of a vulnerable system. An attacker could also execute arbitrary code with user privileges, or cause a denial of service. Further information about the more serious vulnerabilities is available at URL:

<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/techalerts/TA05-165A.html>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	445 (microsoft-ds), 135 (epmap), 6881 (bittorrent), 27015 (halflife), 1026 (---), 53 (domain), 139 (netbios-ssn), 25 (smtp), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 137 (netbios-ns)
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Source: <http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html>; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

28. *June 15, Chicago Tribune (IL)* — West Coast on tsunami alert after quake. A tsunami warning was issued for the western coasts of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck off the northern coast of California, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said in an e-mail alert. "A tsunami warning is in effect for the coast areas from the California-Mexico border to the north tip of Vancouver Island, British Columbia," the alert said. It stressed that it was not known whether a tsunami was generated. There were no reports of injuries or damage. The Tsunami Center said the tsunami threat would exist for several hours.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-0506150263jun15.1.1326776.story?coll=chi-newsnationworld-hed>

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DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures:

[DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published

information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is available on the Department of Homeland Security Website:

<http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Homeland Security Advisories and Information Bulletins – DHS/IAIP produces two levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that addresses cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact. Homeland Security Advisories and Information Bulletins are available on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?theme=70>

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Contact DHS/IAIP

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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